

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
JACKSONVILLE DIVISION**

VETERINARY ORTHOPEDIC  
IMPLANTS, INC.,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 3:20-cv-868-J-34MCR

vs.

MATTHEW J. HAAS,

Defendant.

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**ORDER**

**THIS CAUSE** is before the Court on Plaintiff's Reply to Affirmative Defenses (Doc. 36; Reply). Rule 7(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (Rule(s)) states:

Only these pleadings are allowed:

- (1) a complaint;
- (2) an answer to a complaint;
- (3) an answer to a counterclaim designated as a counterclaim;
- (4) a third-party complaint;
- (5) an answer to a third-party complaint;
- (7) if the court orders one, a reply to an answer.

Rule 7(a) (emphasis added). The Court did not order a reply to Defendant Matthew J. Haas' Amended Answer to Plaintiff's Amended Complaint for Injunctive Relief and Damages and Counterclaims and Demand for Jury Trial (Doc. 34);<sup>1</sup> therefore, Plaintiff's Reply was improperly filed.

Accordingly, it is

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<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff filed a separate answer to Defendant's Counterclaim. See Plaintiff's Answer and Affirmative Defenses to Counterclaim (Doc. 35).

**ORDERED:**

Plaintiff's Reply to Affirmative Defenses (Doc. 36) is **STRICKEN**.

**DONE AND ORDERED** at Jacksonville, Florida, this 6th day of October, 2020.

  
MARCIA MORALES HOWARD  
United States District Judge

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Copies to:  
Counsel of Record